

Bank of America



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NEWARK
MUSEUM

100 years. always exciting.

newark black film festival

35th
ANNIVERSARY

FREE ADMISSION

2009

06.24-07.29

35 years of defining the independent film experience

Wednesdays 7 pm (Youth 1 pm)

ADULT CINEMA SCHEDULE



June 24, 7 pm
Newark Museum

AN AFRO-CENTRIC TWILIGHT ZONE
COSMIC SLOP

This Afro-centric Twilight Zone-inspired trilogy celebrates its 15th anniversary at the festival. A three-part anthology combining science fiction, the supernatural and topical social issues.

In "Space Traders" aliens offer solutions to the United States' problems in exchange for all

African Americans. The country has five days to decide. In "The First Commandment" a young Catholic priest is torn between the church doctrine and his congregation, which believes that the statue of a saint is both a Catholic and an Afro-Cuban deity. His faith is tested when the statue comes to life and performs miracles. In "Tang" a woman living with an abusive boyfriend receives a package containing instructions for the "revolution." *A special thanks to HBO Video.*

1994, 83 MINUTES

SPEAKER: Warrington Hudlin, Filmmaker and founder of *dvrepublic.org*

HOSTS: Gloria H. Buck and Dr. Clement A. Price, NBFF Charter Members

JULY 8, 7 pm
Newark Museum

TO BE YOUNG, GIFTED,
BLACK AND SAFE

**DREAMS DEFERRED:
THE SAKIA GUNN
FILM PROJECT**



In 2003, 15-year old Sakia Gunn was brutally murdered on the streets of Newark because she dared to be herself: a young,

Black lesbian. Taken from her world, her friends and her family before her life truly began, Sakia's story has only begun to be told. And her story demands attention and compassion, not just for Sakia, but for all of the young Black women and men who pay the price of intolerance, shame, hate and silence.

2008, 58 MINUTES

SPEAKERS: Charles B. Brack, Producer/Director and **Jane Dowell-Burton**, Newark Essex Pride Coalition
HOSTS: Ralph R. Waller and Tynesha McHarris

Come early for a 5:45 pm reception, and private viewing of *Party Time: Re-imagine America, A Centennial Commission by Yinka Shonibare MBE* who is featured in the film.
RSVP to 973-596-6550 or rsvp@newarkmuseum.org.



JULY 15, 7 pm
New Jersey Institute of
Technology

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

**MEDICINE FOR
MELANCHOLY**

A love story of bikes and one-night stands through the eyes of two twenty-something urbanites in search of self-definition. Barry Jenkins' award-winning independent film redefines the date movie, giving it new life, new edge and a brand new soul. 2007, 88 MINUTES

SPEAKER: Barry Jenkins, Writer/Director
HOSTS: Theodore T. Johnson and Anthony G. Clark

JULY 22, 7 pm
Newark Museum

CASTING BOOKER T. WASHINGTON'S
LONG SHADOW IN NEW JERSEY

**A PLACE OUT OF TIME:
THE BORDENTOWN
SCHOOL**



New Jersey's Bordentown School was an educational utopia that taught values, discipline

and life skills to generations of children. This film examines a seventy-year period when America cared little about the education of African Americans. 2008, 60 MINUTES

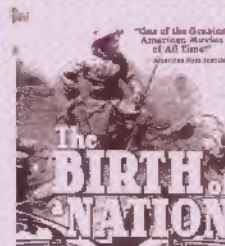
SPEAKERS: David Davidson, Producer/Filmmaker/Director and **Amber Edwards**, Co-Producer
HOSTS: LeRoy Henderson and Dr. Clement A. Price

A special tribute to historian Giles R. Wright Jr., and filmmakers Thomas C. Guy Jr. and St. Claire Bourne.

JULY 29, 7 pm
Newark Museum

BIRTH OF A MYTH AND A NEARLY
FORGOTTEN RESPONSE

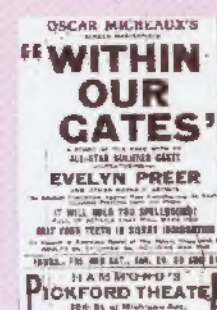
THE BIRTH OF A NATION



This classic 1915 silent film directed by D.W. Griffith was an innovative cinematic breakthrough for its time.

But Griffith's "masterpiece" was made at the expense of African Americans, telling a story of American life that sprang from a deeply distorted, fundamentally racist perspective. This controversial Civil War epic damaged American race relations for many decades, through its vicious caricaturing of African-American citizens, and its glorification of the Ku Klux Klan's terrorism. 1915, SEGMENTS ONLY

WITHIN OUR GATES



This film by the pioneering black filmmaker and entrepreneur Oscar Micheaux is an early depiction of race

and race relations in America during the formative years of Jim Crow and racial terrorism. It is considered a response to *The Birth of a Nation*, with a story focusing on an African-American woman who travels north to help a minister raise funds in support of a school of impoverished black children. 1920, 79 MINUTES

SPEAKER: Donald Bogle, Author/Historian
HOSTS: Richard Wesley and Dr. Miriam Petty

YOUTH CINEMA SCHEDULE

Monday, June 29, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, July 1, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Ages 4-12



GLOBAL WONDERS

Discover the art of Horace Pippin, music of Louis Armstrong, Jackie Robinson, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and more. 56 MINUTES

Monday, July 6, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, July 8, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Ages 4-12

CHATO AND THE PARTY ANIMALS

Chato's friend, Novio Boy, has never had a birthday party. So Chato, being a good friend, throws him one — a "pachanga," and everyone is invited— including you! 10 MINUTES

INCREDIBLE VOYAGE OF BILL PINKNEY

Narrated by Bill Cosby, this documentary tells the story of the first African American to sail around the world.

45 MINUTES

Monday, July 13, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, July 15, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Ages 4-12



I LOST MY TOOTH IN AFRICA

Story of a young girl who loses a tooth while visiting her father's family in Africa. 30 MINUTES

LINCOLN AND DOUGLASS

A story of the unusual friendship between two great American leaders at a time when equality was not yet established. 12 MINUTES

APPLE FOR HARRIET TUBMAN

Learn about the life of Harriet Tubman, including the significance of apples. 12 MINUTES

Monday, July 20, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, July 22, 1 pm
Newark Museum

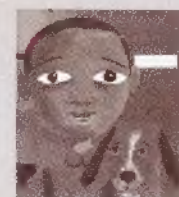
Ages 4-12

CLIQUEs, PHONIES & OTHER BALONEY

This animated program offers helpful suggestions on how children can dare to be different. 30 MINUTES

GARRETT'S GIFT: THE STORY OF GARRETT MORGAN

Narrated by Queen Latifah, this animated program tells the story of African-American inventor Garrett Morgan who invented the traffic signal. 19 MINUTES



THE HUNTERMAN AND THE CROCODILE

Traditional West African folktale about the importance of living in harmony with nature. 10 MINUTES

Monday, July 27, 10:30 am
The Newark Public Library

Wednesday, July 29, 1 pm
Newark Museum

Ages 5 & up



THE STORY OF RUBY BRIDGES

Learn about six-year-old Ruby Bridges' difficult first months at an all-white elementary school in New Orleans. 12 MINUTES

THE LION'S DRUM

An African hunter discovers a lion playing a magic tree stump deep in the jungle and must convince the villagers of what he has seen and heard. 23 MINUTES

OBARA & THE MERCHANTS

In this animated adaptation of the traditional Nigerian folktale, a powerful hunter returns home to find some unexpected dinner guests. 8 MINUTES



Wednesday, July 29, 1 pm
Newark Screens on Springfield Ave.



THE LONGSHOTS

True story of Jasmine Plummer (KeKe Palmer) who, at the age of eleven, became the first

female to play in Pop Warner football tournament in its 56-year history. 2007, 95 MINUTES - PG

newarkmuseum.org
973.596.6550

FESTIVAL SUPPORT

The Newark Black Film Festival has received special funding from Bank of America.

Co-presenters include the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT); The Newark Public Library; the Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience; Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey/Newark, Newark Screens on Springfield Ave. and the New Jersey State Museum. The Festival is organized by the Newark Museum, located at 49 Washington Street in Newark's Downtown/Arts District.

SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

N.L. Akili Buchanan

Producer/Director/Documentary Filmmaker

Gloria Hopkins Buck, LCSW

Public Relations Consultant
NBFF Chairperson

Anthony G. Clark

Coordinator of Library Programs
The Newark Public Library

Patricia Faison

Marketing Associate and NBFF Coordinator
Newark Museum

Mary Eileen Fouratt

Executive Director
Monmouth County Arts Council

Jeff Friday

President, Film Life

Wilma J. Grey

Director, The Newark Public Library

LaRoy Henderson

Visual Artist/Photographer/Arts Educator

Theodore Johnson, Ph.D.

Vice President, Human Resources
New Jersey Institute of Technology

Nancy Maguire

Deputy Director for Operations
Rutgers - Camden Center for the Arts

Tynesha McHarris

Director of SNLR-Newark Institute

Iris M. Orellana

Director of Marketing
New Jersey State Museum

All screenings are FREE TO THE PUBLIC. Seating for all screenings is limited and available on a first-come basis. Once the theater is filled to capacity, additional seating cannot be provided. Group seating is limited to two groups of 25 for each screening. To reserve group seating, call 973.596.6550 (Newark), or 609.292.6464 (Trenton). Group seating will be held 15 minutes prior to screening only.

Lisa Payne

Filmmaker

Miriam Petty, Ph.D.

Fellow in Race/Ethnicity Studies
Princeton University

Clement Alexander Price, Ph.D.

Professor of History and Director of the Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, Rutgers, The State University of NJ, Newark

Mary Sue Sweeney Price

Director of Newark Museum

Eric Pryor

Executive Director, New Jersey State Museum

Jane W. Rappaport

Former NBFF Coordinator

Terri Thomas

Community Arts Director
Monmouth County Arts Council

Ralph R. Waller

Manager of Housing Production
Newark Housing Authority

Richard Wesley

Scriptwriter/Playwright

MEMBERS EMERITI

Mujahid C. Ali

Flora B. Baldwin

John Gregory Clemons

Oliver Franklin

Gustav Henningburg

SCREENING LOCATIONS

NEWARK

Newark Museum

49 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102
973.596.6550

Newark Screens on Springfield Ave.

360-384 Springfield Avenue, Newark,
NJ 07103 973.642.4708

New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT)

Kuptrian Hall, 99 Summit Street, Newark,
NJ 07102 973.596.3000

The Newark Public Library

5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102
973.733.7730

TRENTON



New Jersey State Museum

205 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625
609.292.6464
newjerseystatemuseum.org

ASBURY PARK

Abbreviated Screening—

for details call 732.212.1890 or visit
monmoutharts.org

If you are interested in learning more about **film sources** or other programs at the Newark Museum, call 973.596.6550, or visit newarkmuseum.org.

The Newark Black Film Festival is made possible by a grant from

Bank of America

The Newark Museum, a not-for-profit museum of art, science and education, receives operating support from the City of Newark, the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Council on the Arts/Department of State — a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, the New Jersey Cultural Trust, the Wallace Foundation, the Prudential Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Victoria Foundation and other corporations, foundations and individuals. Funds for acquisitions and activities other than operations are provided by members and other contributors.



Mary Sue Sweeney Price, Director



100 years. always new.

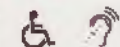
49 washington street, newark, nj 07102-3176

newarkmuseum.org 973.596.6550 711

WEB

TEL

TTY



THE NEWARK BLACK FILM FESTIVAL AT THIRTY-FIVE

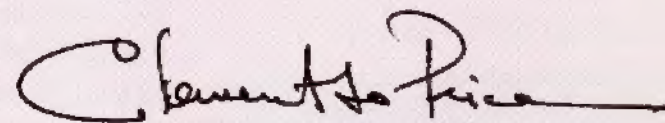
When the Newark Black Film Festival began its adventure in independent cinema in 1974, few at the inaugural screenings could have ever imagined what the future might look like. How could they have envisioned the revitalized “comeback” city that would appear by the mid-1980s, or a local Festival that would ultimately draw thousands of avid neighbors, film buffs, students and parents to venues all over town, or a Festival that would in many ways symbolize the tenacity of Newark, the Brick City? The scores of films screened at the Festival provide a road map of sorts, one that takes us from the past to the present. Indeed, from its beginning, the Newark Black Film Festival has sought to present a believable, complicated, nuanced and vivid set of lens through which the black experience could be understood. And in so doing, our community is better for it.

In its early years, the Festival was inspired by the aspirations of the Civil Rights Movement. It screened films that probed what was then largely undiscovered territory, including the film career of Paul Robeson, the contemporary films coming out Africa, and from the far corners of the African Diaspora, and the independent films that were, until recently, largely unavailable in

the commercial marketplace. Never shying away from controversy, the Festival also screened films that were intentionally controversial, films that made our community think more deeply about black life writ large, diverse, global, or close at home. Indeed, we have always had a special fealty to talented filmmakers who tell local stories, filmmakers who are also our neighbors.

This year’s Festival is especially eclectic. In keeping with the Festival’s customary appetite for the daring, during our 35th anniversary season, we will present a classic American film that hardened racial attitudes against African Americans and yet prompted the beginning of a long effort by black film makers to repair, inform, challenge, and set the record straight. The Festival will also present films that explore black romance, current perceptions of a very complicated Africa, the violence that too often targets gays and lesbians in the black community, and a newly released documentary film about the famous Bordentown School for New Jersey Colored Youth. Once again, the Festival will explore the themes of history, memory, identity, individuality, and that which is bittersweet—the mettle of the human experience.

Newark is now reveling in anniversaries, most especially the Centennial anniversary of the founding of the Newark Museum in 1909. The 35th anniversary of the Newark Black Film Festival is another important observance this season. This much is known: Newark Black Film Festival audiences are the best filmmakers will ever find, the City of Newark is alive with curiosity in the arts and culture, and by the time one is 35 years old, one usually knows what one is doing. So, no salt on the popcorn, please, turn off your cell phone, and enjoy the Festival.



Dr. Clement Alexander Price
Newark Black Film Festival Charter Member

We are proud to acknowledge that over the past 34 years, the Festival has screened 676 films to an audience of more than 157,000 adults and children.